

Message Text

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60

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02 /134 W

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R 311835Z OCT 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 704

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: TROPICAL PRODUCTS MEETING OCTOBER 20-23; NEXT STEPS

REF: MTN GENEVA 7841

1. IN VIEW OF DECISION OF TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP TO HOLD INTENDIVE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ASAP AND IMPORTANCE LDCS ATTACH TROPICAL PRODUCTS ISSUE, MTN DEL INTENDS TO SCHEDULE ANOTHER ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS DURING THE THREE WEEK PERIOD BETWEEN NOVEMBER 17 AND THE TNC MEETING. MTN DEL BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL TO BEGIN PRELIMINARY SUBSTANTIVE REACTION STAGE AT THIS TIME WITH KEY COUNTRIES UNDER PRIORITY IDENTIFIED IN PARA 3 BELOW. TNC WILL TAKE PLACE IN ATMOSPHERE OF GENERAL LDC DISCONTENT CONCERNING LACK OF PROGRESS SINCE JULY TNC IN AGREEING TO SPECIAL PROCEDURES AND/OR APPROPRIATE SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIATED TREATMENT IN FAVOR OF LDCS. THERE IS ALSO GROWING DISSATISFACTION THAT THIRD COUNTRY DESIRES IN AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING IGNORED AS A RESULT

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OF US/EC IMPASSE. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT, IN ORDER

TO BOLSTER U.S. POSITION AT TNC, TO SHOW PRIOR TO
TNC THAT U.S. ACTUALLY MEETING TIME SCHEDULE FOR
TROPICAL PRODUCTS OUTLINED BY U.S. DEL AT LAST
TP MEETING.

2. BILATERAL REACTIONS TO LDC REQUEST LIST WOULD BE
BASED ON KNOWLEDGE OF TIEMS INCLUDED IN U.S. GSP AND
IDENTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS NEGOTIABLE IN THIS OR OTHER
GROUPS. WE UNDERSTAND WASHINGTON PREPARATIONS
WITH RESPECT TO THESE TWO ITEMS ARE ON SCHEDULE INCLUDING
IDENTIFICATION OF UNIVERSE FROM WHICH TO DRAW POTENTIAL
OFFERS IN TP GROUP AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE
PRODUCTS WITHIN THAT UNIVERSE FOR EARLY DECISION BY
TPSC. REACTIONS COULD ALSO INCLUDE PRELIMINARY VIEWS
ON SIMILAR NTB REQUESTS SUCH AS NEGATIVE REACTION TO
REDUCING OR ELIMINATING SALES TAXES. CONSULTATIONS WOULD
ALSO INCLUDE FOLLOW-UP ON NECESSARY CLARIFICATION OF
REQUESTS. TO THE EXTENT DISCUSSIONS CAN
INCLUDE AT LEAST PRELININARY DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE
RECIPROCITY SOUGHT BY U.S. FROM KEY COUNTRIES PRIOR TO
TNC OUR POSITION AT THAT MEETING FURTHER STRENGTHENED.

3. MTN DEL RECOGNIZES THE DIFFICULTY OF RESPONDING TO
ALL ITEMS INITIALLY ON INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES' REQUESTS
LISTS BUT BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS
WITH AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF THE FOLLOWING MORE
OUTSPOKEN LDC DELEGATIONS:

ARGENTINA

BRAZIL

COLOMBIA

ECUADOR

EGYPT

INDIA

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INDONESIA

JAMAICA

MALAYSIA

MEXICO

NIGERIA

PAKISTAN

SINGAPORE

SRI LANKA

4. TECHNICAL PREPARATION SHOULD INCLUDE AN UPDATING OF QUOTE TROPICAL PRODUCT REQUEST LIST, RUN NOVEMBER 1 UNQUOTE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING NEW INFORMATION: AD VALOREM EQUIVALENTS OF SPECIFIC RATE DUTIES, IDENTIFICATION OF WHETHER A TSUS ITEM IS BOUND, IDENTIFICATION OF FIVE LEADING SUPPLIERS IN RANK ORDER (LDC OR DC) AND INCLUSION OF NTB REQUESTS. IF POSSIBLE, RUNS SHOULD IDENTIFY REQUESTS MADE OF OTHER DCS ON EACH LINE ITEM. MTN DEL PREPARED TO BACKSTOP UPDATING EXERCISE IF IT CAN RECEIVE PRINTOUT OF REQUEST LISTS BY COUNTRY CURRENTLY IN THE FILE AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL.

5. MTN DEL REQUESTS WASHINGTON ASSURANCE THAT ABOVE INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE PROVIDED AS TO PARA 3 COUNTRIES (I.E., AS TO THOSE YOU BELIEVE WE CAN BE READY TO TALK WITH) BEFORE SCHEDULING THE CONSULTATION SESSIONS. WE WOULD LIKE THESE ASSURANCES BY NOVEMBER 7 IF AT ALL POSSIBLE GIVEN TIME NECESSARY TO SCHEDULE SUCH A ROUND. WALKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MTNGE08251
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750379-0675
From: MTN GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975101/aaaaaauj.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MTN GENEVA 7841
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TROPICAL PRODUCTS MEETING OCTOBER 20-23; NEXT STEPS
TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, OCON, TH, EG, GATT, MTN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006